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THE ADDRESS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE NEWCASTLE DISTRICT, TO THEIR PRESBYTERIAN BRETHREN THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA.

BRETHREN AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN:

We trust that in calling your attention to the proceedings of the House of Assembly on the evening of the 9th ult. there is no necessity for going into any minute detail,as the matter is by this time sufficiently before you. We shall, therefore, now only advert to a Public Meeting held in Cobourg on the 28th ult., when a series of Resolutions were unanimously adopted, expressive of our sentiments, and an Association formed for carrying the same into effect. We earnestly call your serious attention to these resolutions, which have been published in a few of the Provincial papers, and in Hand Bills now pretty widely circulated.

We feel assured that on considering the views, and the openly avowed sentiments of the organs of an exclusive and dominant Church in this Province, as expressed in the House of Assembly, in connexion with the violent and scurrilous language uttered on the evening referred to, you will be ready, as Scotsmen and Presbyterians to stand manfully forward in defence of the character of your venerated Clergy, and your own rights and privileges as a Church. If you reflect for a moment on the exclusive claims put forth by the Advocates of the Church of England as "The Established Church", in this Colony, and the steps they are gradually taking to secure for her an odious supremacy,you cannot but perceive the dangerous and humiliating position in which we and all other denominations of Christians shall be placed as dissenters.—We, therefore, confidently look forward to your cordial co-operation in any measure which may be considered conducive to the attainment of our wishes—*equal rights and privileges.*

Convinced as we are of your veneration for our beloved Church, and of your admiration of the distinction to which she, under the Almighty, has been the means of raising her children in the moral world, we feel it would be superfluous for us to make use of any language stronger than the conscious assurance, that it will be your proud wish, as it is your bounden duty, to secure for your posterity the same privileges and blessings which our forefathers, of glorious memory, have handed down to us.

But with the view of securing unity of purpose, it will not we hope, be deemed presumptuous in us to suggest, and most forcibly urge that an Association similar to ours be formed with the least possible delay,in order that your opinions on this momentous question may be duly laid before the public;—and to obtain unanimity of sentiment, without which all our exertions will prove ineffectual, we would earnestly beg that all minor differences of opinion be waived, on a subject of such paramount importance. Conceiving that the suggestions now made will meet with your cordial concurrence, we would farther recommend that as soon as associations shall have been formed, and your plans fully matured, delegates from each shall be sent to some central and convenient place in the Province, that may hereafter be agreed on, with full powers from their constituents to take such steps as to them shall appear necessary for obtaining the great object we have in view.

Any communications from Associations so formed, or from individuals, addressed to the Secretaries will be thankfully received.

By order of the Committee,

ROBERT HUDSPETH.
ROBERT MURRAY.
DAVID BRODIE.
} *Joint Secretaries.*

Cobourg, March 16, 1836.

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